SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT.—

A.—18. (*a*) (1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) It is in the opposite row but not exactly opposite to the Assistant Superintendent's Office.

(4) Yes. (It is not known what property in the form of jewels or cash was lost since the woman was living alone and had no relatives. The neighbours say that they heard nothing unusual in the house of the deceased on the night of the occurrence.)

(5) A petition was received from the complainant in each case by the Inspector-General of Police and the same was acknowledged by him.

(*b*) (1) The Inspector-General of Police took personal interest in the two cases of theft and directed several intelligent Police Officers on various clues. Attempts are still being made to detect the case.

(2) No.

(3) In the first case a 'C' report has been submitted and the other two cases are pending investigation with the Police.

(4) No clues were obtained in spite of all efforts made.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHIACHARYA (Minority Interest).—

Q.—55. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) On what basis a community is styled as a backward community ?

(*b*) How do Government intend encouraging backward communities when many of the forward communities with a larger percentage of educated men are receiving greater encouragement at their hands ?

(*c*) Whether Government do not consider it to be desirable to include all those who are really backward in education, etc., up to 100,000 as a backward community and try to give them encouragement independently ?

(*d*) If not, will the Government promise to give free education to all such members of backward communities in high schools and colleges ?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS.—

A.—55. (*a*) For purposes of the award of backward community scholarship, any caste, tribe or community which

has less than 5 per cent of its total population literate in English is reckoned as backward.

For purposes of appointments all communities other than Brahmins are included under the term "Backward Communities."

(*b*) Backward class pupils get scholarships under the backward class scholarship scheme in proportion to the population of each community or groups of communities. Such of the pupils as belong to minor backward communities and are not benefited by the backward class scholarship scheme, are given scholarships out of the lumpsum provision of Rs. 2,000 per annum sanctioned by Government with effect from 1928-29 for Minor Backward Class Communities.

(*c*) *Vide* answer to part (*a*).

(*d*) This is a question of funds, as it means loss of fee income to the extent to which free education is given.

MR. K. T. BHASHYAM (Special Interests).—

Q.—58. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) How many persons below the age of 20 were convicted by Criminal Courts during the last three years?

(*b*) How may of them were let on probation under Section 562, Criminal Procedure Code, and how many sentenced to imprisonment?

(*c*) Whether any of them have been lodged in any reformatory and if so, where and how many?

(*d*) What is the total number of offenders below the age of 20 now undergoing sentence in the State, and how many of them are in any reformatory?

(*e*) How many first offenders of all ages were convicted during the last three years and how many of them were released under Section 562, Criminal Procedure Code?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT.—

A.—58. (*a*) (*b*) and (*e*). Information is not readily available.

(*c*) There is no reformatory in the State.

(*d*) There were at the end of May 1929 eighteen offenders below the age of 20 years undergoing imprisonment in the Bangalore Central Jail where all the juvenile prisoners sentenced to more than one month's imprisonment are incarcerated.